

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 17, 2021

Mr. Stephen M. Dickson  
Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
800 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20591-0004

Dear Administrator Dickson:

We are writing on behalf of our constituents who have been suffering from the adverse effects of the FAA's NextGen program. While the program has made the airspace more efficient, the concentrated flight paths have created unbearable living conditions for those who live under the channelized air traffic resulting from implementation of NextGen. Despite the best efforts of the DCA Community Noise Working Group (CWG), unhealthy amounts of noise and air pollution continue to plague residents, and no relief is in sight.

We have been advised that the CWG recently endorsed a new recommendation to the FAA that would help to alleviate some of the burden of NextGen flight paths by introducing a moderate degree of noise mitigation. The recommendation has been vetted for safety and efficiency by both the Potomac TRACON Air Traffic Control Center and an independent airspace consultant hired by Montgomery and Arlington Counties. Most importantly, this recommendation was supported by all affected jurisdictions represented in the CWG, including Montgomery County, Arlington County, Fairfax County, and the District of Columbia. We hope that the proposed principles can also be applied to flight paths south of DCA over Alexandria and Prince George's County.

We strongly urge the FAA to consider the enclosed recommendation and provide a written report with your findings, including an estimated timeline for implementation.

Sincerely,



Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



Anthony G. Brown  
Member of Congress



Steny H. Hoyer  
Member of Congress



David J. Trone  
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress